Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (currently amended) A method of identifying a shelf within a cabinet, said shelf carrying at least one item to be located by a user, said method comprising displaying on ~~the step of causing~~ a numeric, shelf-level display ~~to flash~~ a number that is the number of different items to be located which are carried by the shelf.

2.   (currently amended) A method, comprising:

entering user information into a processor controlling a dispensing cabinet;

~~said processor unlocking certain doors of the dispensing cabinet in response to said user~~ ~~information;~~

choosing a query mode;

identifying an item for which information is sought;

displaying substantive information for the identified item; and

logging off.~~; and~~

~~locking the unlocked doors.~~

3.   (currently amended) The method of claim 2 additionally comprising ~~the step of~~ entering patient information.

4.   (currently amended) The method of claim 3 additionally comprising:

unlocking certain doors of the dispensing cabinet in response to said user information,

the ~~steps of~~ opening one of the unlocked doors,

selecting a compartment,

entering the number of items taken,

~~and~~ closing the opened door~~.~~, and

locking the unlocked doors.

5.   (currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein said ~~step of~~ choosing a query mode includes choosing from among a dispense, locate, return, query ~~and~~or restock mode.

6.   (currently amended) The method of claim 2 wherein said ~~step of~~ identifying an item for which information is sought includes one of picking an item from a pick list, inputting identifying information with a keypad, ~~and~~or barcode scanning.

7.   (currently amended) A method, comprising:

entering user information into a processor controlling a dispensing cabinet;

said processor unlocking certain doors of the dispensing cabinet in response to said user information;

entering patient information into the processor;

choosing a query mode;

identifying an item for which information is sought;

displaying substantive information for the identified item;

opening an unlocked door;

selecting a compartment;

identifying the number of items taken from the selected compartment;

displaying the number of items taken on a display;

closing the opened door;

logging off; and

locking the unlocked doors.

8.   (currently amended) The method of claim 7 wherein said ~~step of~~ choosing a query mode includes choosing from among a dispense, locate, return, query ~~and~~or restock mode.

9.   (currently amended) The method of claim 7 wherein said ~~step of~~ identifying an item includes one of picking an item from a pick list, inputting identifying information with a keypad, ~~and~~or barcode scanning.

10.   (new) The method of claim 1 wherein the display of a number includes a flashing display.

11.   (new) The method of claim 10 wherein the number stops flashing and is reset to zero in response to an item switch being activated.